



City of Scottsdale
Human Services Commission
Regular Meeting

SUMMARIZED MINUTES

Thursday, September 10, 2015

City Hall Kiva Forum
3939 N. Drinkwater Blvd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PRESENT:

Raoul Zubia, Chair
Dustin Thomas, Vice Chair
Enid Seiden, Commissioner
Marty Day, Commissioner
Nicholas Thomas, Commissioner
Josina Tishler, Commissioner

ABSENT:

Donald Nordlund, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT:

Greg Bestgen, Human Services Director
Justin Boyd, Housing Coordinator
Bill Murphy, Community Services Director
Michelle Albanese, Community Assistance & Paiute Center Manager
Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager
Joanne Meierdirks, Human Services Coordinator
Phil Herschowitz, Recreation Coordinator
Tim Miluk, Human Services Manager

GUESTS:

Cynthia Zwick, Arizona Community Action Association
Karoline Davidson, Crisis Response Network

Call to order

Chair Zubia called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as noted above.

1. Approval of the August 13, 2015 Minutes - Regular Meeting

COMMISSIONER NICHOLAS THOMAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 13, 2015 HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER TISHLER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONER NORDLUND WAS ABSENT.

2. 2015 Community Services Master Plan

Bill Murphy, Community Services Director, announced that City Council unanimously approved Resolution 10204 approving the 2015 Community Services Master Plan on August 25, 2015. He noted that the strategic matrix areas that are listed from pages 103 through 107 will be addressed by Human Services, the Library, and Parks and Recreation moving forward. The document will be used as part of the budget process in the future. Mr. Murphy thanked the Human Services Commission for their contributions to the process.

3. Arizona Community Action Association Presentation

Cynthia Zwick, Executive Director of Arizona Community Action Association summarized conditions impacting adults and families experiencing crises at the state and local level and what is being done to address those needs. She highlighted successful strategies and strategies to consider in developing solutions to address challenges. Her presentation included a discussion of attitudes towards poverty and statistics relating to Arizonans living in poverty. She noted that primary focus includes maintaining support for emergency services, working with local businesses to encourage paying a living wage, curbing predatory lending, and advocacy.

Commission members and staff were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Zwick said that collateral materials and a website are being created and local businesses who are paying a living wage are being recruited to communicate with other companies about paying a living wage. The formula that has been developed determined that a living wage in Maricopa County would be \$14.33. Ms. Zwick said that there is a lot of collaboration within communities to close gaps in service and put forth a stronger effort. Because of reductions in funding and increase in people in need, funding gaps have become prevalent, as well as systemic issues in the education system.

4. Crisis Response Network Presentation

Karoline Davidson, Communications Coordinator, Crisis Response Network, gave a presentation discussing supportive services that are available to adults and families in crisis. She discussed Suicide Prevention Day; defined what a crisis is in terms of mental health; and talked about the suicide prevention hotline. She elaborated on the process that is part of the suicide prevention hotline, which could include working with law enforcement and, when necessary, dispatching a response team. A warm line for peer support is also available at (602)347-1100. Ms. Davidson confirmed that the network works together with Community Bridges.

5. HUD Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER)

Michelle Albanese, Community Assistance and Paiute Center Manager, provided an overview of the accomplishments of the Fiscal Year 2014/15 year reported in the HUD Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report. She explained that the City receives federal Community Development Block Grant And Home Investment Partnership Funds from the Department of Housing And Urban Development and uses these funds to provide programs and services to low and moderate income persons. She explained that it is required that grantees provide a CAPER at the end of each program year that identifies how the jurisdiction is carrying out their programs and services.

6. Staff and Commission Updates

Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager, said that Vista del Camino staff is, in addition to providing emergency assistance, utility assistance, food bank and career center services, ramping up for the Adopt-a-Family Program, Thanksgiving, and end of year holiday programs with a goal of serving 500 families this year. He noted a possibility that the City could receive an increase in the amount of utility assistance funding received through Maricopa County. Vista del Camino staff is piloting a program of financial education classes and case managing a small number of individuals beyond the usual emergency assistance.

Tim Miluk, Human Services Manager, said that the City hosted the 40th anniversary for the Police Crisis Intervention Services Unit on September 9th. He noted that 106 vendors have registered so far for the Arts and Crafts Festival at Granite Reef Senior center. The National Fall Prevention Day program is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23rd from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Mr. Miluk offered a fun fact, noting that the Brown Bag Program offered every Thursday morning distributes 172,800 pounds of food and drink each year.

Joanne Meierdirks, Human Services Coordinator, noted that next Tuesday, September 15th, Youth and Family Services will have the first multidisciplinary team meeting for the 2015/16 school year. Scottsdale Mayor's Youth Council is active. Mayor Lane attended the first meeting and the members visited the new transportation center as part of their second meeting. Ms. Meierdirks mentioned that City Council adopted the resolution for the IGA for the drug, alcohol, and violence prevention education program.

Justin Boyd, Housing Coordinator, provided an update on CDBG 2016/17 requests for proposals and distributed a memorandum of the 2016/17 funding process.

Michelle Albanese, Community Assistance & Paiute Center Manager, announced that on August 13, 2015, the Section 8 program opened its wait list for the first time in over five years and the wait list closed within 55 minutes with 500 applications. Staff are working on verifying the applications that were received and will pull applicants in the next few months. The Paiute Neighborhood Center will host the Mexican Independence Day event on Tuesday, September 15th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in Paiute Park. On Wednesday, September 23rd Paiute Center will be hosting a drug awareness and neighborhood crime seminar from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Greg Bestgen, Human Services Director, said that he and staff are working on new marketing ideas that will be rolled out with the Communication and Public Affairs Office, including telling the story of what Human Services does through video clips on the City website.

Bill Murphy, Community Services Director, noted that Community Services has been organized so that business operations fall under Brian Bundy. Anyone dealing with revenue will fall under that department and Ann Porter will be helping with sponsorships and marketing. All three Community Services departments will tie into the marketing program.

Chair Zubia announced that this is Commissioner Nicholas Thomas' last meeting and thanked him for his years of service.

7. Open call to the Public

There were no members of the public who wish to speak.

8. Adjournment

Being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.